(b) the effective steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to check the incidents of atrocities committed against women?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI) : (a) The details of the atrocities committed against women in various States of the country during the last three years, State-wise and crime-wise are enclosed as Annexure (*See* Appendix 197, Annexure No. 7).

(b) 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects as per entries 1 and 2 of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India and as such, detection, registration, investigation and prevention of crime is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However, the Government of India has been advising State Governments from time to time to give more focussed attention to improving the administration of criminal justice system and take such measures as are necessary for the prevention of atrocities against women. The advisories issued to the State Governments include, *inter alia*, setting up of exclusive women police stations, setting up of women police cells in the police stations, setting up of Crime against Women Cells in districts, hearing of rape cases by a court presided over by a lady magistrate, investigation of rape case of victims less than 18 years of age by women police officers and in the presence of parents and/or relatives, wider recruitment of women in police forces, setting up of Special Women Courts in each district, appointment of Dowry Prohibition Officers, etc.

Financial Rules of Ladakh Council

798. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN :
SHRI V. V. RAGHAVAN :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state.

(a) whether it is a fact that though the Ladakh Council was set up long back in the year 1975, the financial rules of the Council have not been framed as yet;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) what is the criteria being adopted for the allotment of plan allocation to this part of Jammu and kashmir?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO) : (a) to (c) As per the Constitution of India, as applicable to the State of Jammu & Kashmir, the creation and constitution of Autonomous Councils falls within the exclusive domain of the

State Government. The Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council Act was enacted in May, 1995 during the President's Rule, i.e., at a time when the President was vested with the administrative powers of the State Government and subsequently when a popular Government assumed office in October, 1996, the said Act was reenacted by the State Government/Legislature within their own powers.

As per the provisions of the Act, the State Government shall provide funds under the Plan and Non-Plan Budget to the Council to be credited to the Council Fund as per budgetary requirements as approved by the State Government and the funds shall be released by the State Government as per normal budgeting procedure.

Non-payment of Property Tax in Delhi

799. SHRI RAJU PARMAR :
SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that more than half a million properties in the National Capital Territory of Delhi are not paying property tax though residents of these properties enjoy full civic amenities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to collect property tax from those residents who are not paying property tax for the last many years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. The properties are regularly assessed and in the event of non-payment of property tax the action as permissible under law is taken against the defaulting property owners.

National Committee on Disaster Management

800. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO :
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi High Court has asked the National Committee on Disaster Management (NCDM) to finalise its draft agenda;

(b) if so, whether the NCDM chaired by the Prime Minister has not been able to meet even once since its inception;